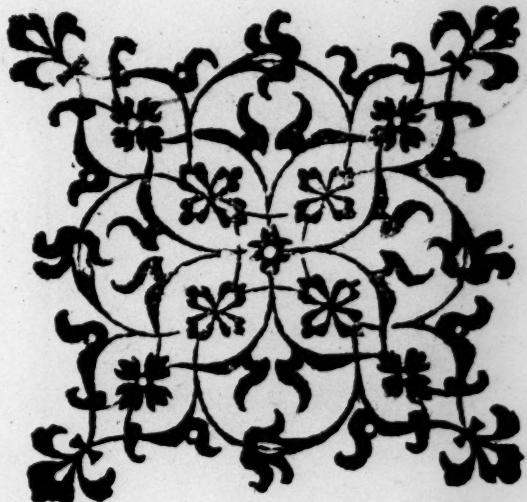


10

THE Honourable Prentice/ OR, This Taylor is a man.

Showed in the life and death of Sir John Hawkewood, sometime Prentice of London : interlaced with the famous History of the noble Fitzwalter, Lord of Woodham in Essex, and of the poisoning of his faire Daughter : Also of the merry customes of Dunmow, where any one may freely haue a Gammon of Bacon, that repents not mariage in a yeere and a day.

Whereunto is annexed the most lamentable murther of *Robert Hall* at the High Altar in, Westminster Abbey.



¶ Printed at London for Henry Goffon,
and are to be sold in Pannier
alley. 1615. 10





TO MY MOST
louing and respected friend
Master Robert Valens,
health, and all
happines.



Vch is now, and emer-
more hath been, the in-
constant, and interchan-
geable estate of humane
affaires (good Sir) that
nothing hath bee which
hath not had his in-
crease, his hight, as also
his declining: and albe-
it, it may bee said that

among the rest, martiall discipline was never in any
age neglected, or unregarded: Yet can it not be deny-
ed, but that in former ages the same hath been manna-
ged with much more honourable regard and reward,
then now it is. witnessse the many honours, which
the Greekes, and Romans allowed to Soldiers, and
men of high desert. And in especiall, the stately and
costly Triumphs which were allowed to their Consuls

The Epistle Dedicatory.

or Generalls, that were victors; and had conquered, or subdued any Nation or Countrey to their obeyfence. Neyther haue writers left their atchivements or worthy designes unrecovered, and smothered in obliuion: which benefit many worthy Commanders of our Nation haue wanted. Among which, John Hawke-wood, whose honour and memoriable exploits, acted in Ferraïne Countries had beene forgotten, had not Paulus Louius, and some few others rather remembred them, then expressed them according to their worth. This moued me some few yeeres since, for my owne recreation, to collect these Histories ensuing: hoping that some one or other, better furnished then my selfe, would haue undertaken to deliner them to the world in more ample manner, and more plausible termes: which not falling out according to my expec-tation, but being put to the Presse, I being most assu-red of your generous and worthy disposition, haue im-bouldened my selfe in this to make tender of that loue which I beare aud owe to your vertues: wishing to you all that happiness which may equall your godly and vertuous intendments,

Yours in all

W. V.



The Introduction



T is obserued that the Almighty Creator and Gouernour of this great & large vniuerse, the world; without diminishing his owne infinite, & vncircumscribed power, or neglect of his protection and gouernement: hath yet appointed the superior seauen planets, by termes to governe the world vnder him: each for the space of three hundred fifty and odde yeeres: who according to their severall honoures and influences, impart their severall natures and properties to mortall men. Which is the cause that some ages are given to peace and quiet, some to war, some to stude, and inuention of sciences, some to trauaile, and search strange and vnkowne lands to plant inhabitants, some to propagate religion, &c. But if any age or time hath had Mars for gouernor, I doubt not but about the daies of King Edward the third, and his Father, and his sonne, this Government must bee. All Christian Princces, yea,

An Introductio n.

and the heathen intending nothing but warres, bloodshed, stratagems, and conquests. In these times valor, and magnanimity was esteemed, had in pricke, and bountifullly rewarded. Honour, and promotion attending on such as could, and had meane to deserue it. In these times men from meane estates arise to high promotion, and dignities: honour, fame, and renoune attending on such, as could with wisdome and courage follow the warres.



I
THE

Famous History of Sir John Hawkewood: some- times PRENTICE of LONDON.



Bout the beginning of
the raigne of King Ed-
ward the third, there
lived in the countie of
Essex, in the towne of
Henningham Syble, a
man of honest report &
reputation; named,
Gilbert Hawkewood,
by his trade and pro-
fession, a Tanner, whi

among other childrē had a son named Iehn, a youth
forward, and apt for any good impression, or matter
which might be imposed on him: Vim hee brought
vp, in such learning, as might after stand him in
steed, and such as those times affoorded, which he di-
ligently applyed, insomuch as in writing, reading,
and casting accounts, and other rudiments of great
scollership he exceedsd his equalls. So soone as he
came to reasonable yeers, and was fit for the Cittie,
his Father brought hi u to London, and bound him
apprentise to a Taylor, who were not then called
Marchant Taylores, but Taylores, and linnen At-
moreres.

2 The honourable Prentice.

more: with this Taylor he remained, performing all such duties as others that were his fellow prentices used to doe unto, and for their Masters, untill the King having employed many thousands of men in his conquest of France, and forced to plant and man many Garrisons, in Citties, Castles, & towns, which he had wonne and taken, sent yet againe into England, for new supplie of Souldiers, pressing many house-holders, & seruants to supplie his Armies, and to manage his intended conquest of France. Then was Iohn Hawkhood, albeit yong, thought meet and able to serue. Himselue rather willing to be so employed, then to sit all day on a shoppē-boord making trasses, sowing stockings, or fashioning, or shaping of Garments. His spirit & Genius leading him rather to follow Arms after the sound of trumpet and drumme, then be at the hand, at the call of his master or mistres. To France he went, as also many other prentises of his acquaintance and familiars. He serued an Archer, with his bowe & shafts, in no better place then a common Sentinell, or of the still watch, as it then was termed, and in short space, (such was his carriage, valour, and courage) that he was promoted to be a commander, or Captain, after a Seruant, then Ancient, after that Lieutenaunt, and last of all Captain, and serued with his company of two hundred and fifty men, all Archers, with such good and happy successe, as that he was euermore preferred to the best and most dangerous oppositione of the enemy. The black Prince his generall, having a watchfull eie of his behauour, and his valour, louing him, and esteeming him moare then ordinary, oftentimes called him to counsell in weighty affaires, and found him to bee of an excellent sharpe, and deep iudgement; and often preferred his aduise before others, who were esteemed

much

much more worthy, and were become famous for their councell: neither was his estimation only for councell, but for execution, he surpassed in speeche & forwardnesse his fellow Captaines. The particulars of his services are not recorded, but his unknowne, and couered in the names of chief Commanaders and Generalls. Let this suffice, that for his valiant exploits and hardinesse hee was dignified with the honour of Knighthood. Albeit hee was thought the poorest Knight in the Army. Hee was in possibility of great preferment, and of great riches, if those warres of France had continued: but the French overwearied, & driven to narrow straights, were right glad to conclude a peace, which was concluded and made in Britaine, at oʒ neer Chartires, in the yeare of our Lord 1360.

The black Prince with the chiefeſt of his Souldiers, were after imployed in the warres of Spaine, many returned for England, and others could not by any meaneſ be drawne from out of France: and from ſuch places and preferments, as with their ſwords they had purchased. But John Hawke-wood ioyning himſelfe and his company with ſuch as were called the new men, or late coimmers, determined, to ſeek better fortunes, and raise his ſtate with the ſpoile of his enemies, and ſo with a ſetled resolution to paſſe through the East parts of Fraunce unto Italy, to follow the warres there. Hee tooke his ioorney in deſpit of any poueres that could be made to reſiſt him, through Champaigne, Burgundy, and Daulphine, and came into Prouince, even to the very gates of Auignion, where the Pope keepeſ his Court, & residence of Cardinallſ: Great and exceeding rich were the ſpotles which hee and his Followers gat in this ioorney: but much more was the honour, fame, and renoume which hee purchaſed

The Honourable Prentice.

sed. Hee never attempted, but he conquered, nor
nener skirmished, or fought battals, but euermore
hee bare away the victory. Hee was the sole and ge-
nerall Commander of all whiche followed him, whiche
of their apparrell, whiche hee newly made for them,
were called the white band, which consisted of fift
thousand horse, and one thousand and five hundred
foote, whereof the most part were English, and Ar-
chers.

Thus entred he into Lumberdy, and was enter-
tained by the Marques of Mountferratto, a great
Prince, who made vnto him large payment, and
royall pay, to the full content of himselfe, his Cap-
taines, and Souldiers: besides, rich spoiles, whiche
they obtained and gat of the Marques enemies. In
these wars he spent some time, to the great honour
and fame of our English Nation.

At this time Lionell the Duke of Clarence, third
sonne to King Edward, arrived in Italy, with an ho-
nourable company, to marry the Lady Violetta,
daughter to Wicount Galeasius, Duke of Millan,
which gaue vnto Sir John Hawkewood occasion to
take leauue of the Marques, and become a follower
of the Duke of Clarence to the marriage: where,
more like a Courtier, then a Souldier (trained vp
as he was) he behaued himselfe with such commen-
dable and heropick carriage, as that hee deserved
to bee beloved both of the Duke, and of his Father-
in lawe Galeasius: but most of all, Barnabe, brother
of Galeasius, a warlike Prince, admired his vertues,
and knowing of his valo: and resolution, never re-
stid to intreate the Duke of Clarence, till he had ob-
tained licence of him that Sir John Hawkewood
micht with his compaines serue him in his warres
against the State of Mantua, whiche warres hee man-
aged in behalfe of Barnaby, in such sort, as that he

in sandry fightes, and skirmishes ouerthrew his enemies, making himselfe, and the Englishmen so famous, and renowned, that all Italy feared them, and accounted Barnaby happy in his entertainment; who on the other side, admired the discipline, and valiant demeanour of our nation: and so entirely loued and honoured this Giouanno Acutio, for so the Italians called him, that hee gaue unto him in marriage his daughter Dominia, whiche hee had by a Lady of high birth and nobility, named, Porra, and with her 10000 Florences of yearely revenue. Thus was his glory, honour, and name more spread, and admired, his riches increased, and the more for that Barnaby was esteemed and accounted the most valiant and the worthiest Souldier of his time.

But to the great wonder of all men, when the Duke of Clarence died at Alba, the Englishmen revolted from the friendship of Galestius, and Barnaby, and Sir John Hawkewood with his Army, ioyned with their enimies. By meanes of such alteration and change of aff.ctions (grounded vpon what occasions I doe not reade) I finde that many townes and Citties of Lombardy, were spoiled and wasted by his powre: all Italy feared him, and well was that Prince which might giue him entertainment. But being yet out of pay, his order was to take one Citty or other, and with the spoile thereof pay his Souldiers, and men of warre. But if they would sauе themselues from spoile and ruine he ransomed them, and would somtimes sell them to such as were enimies to the owners of them. At these times hee tooke the Townes of Fasna, and Bagnacauollo: the one hee sold to the Marques of East, for two hundred thousand Crownes. That of Bagnacauollo, he kept and held as his owne a long time; yet at last, Astroian Manfredy gat it from him by treason. Be-

ing weary of being out of pay & wages, hee was sent unto Pope Gregory the twelveth, whose Citties in Prouince revolted from him, whereupon hee entertained Sir John Hawkewood, and made him his Generall: For whom he recovered all those Citties & townes, which refused his obedience. For which service hee was besides his ordinary pay, well rewarded, and by the Popes appointment, made Gouvernour of five great townes. In these warres I reade that he by mischance was once taken prisoner, but by the great valour and worthines of his Captaines and Souldiers, recovered from out the handes of his enemies, with whom he was most honourably vsed and intreated. Having ended the warres for the B. of Rome, and utterly refusing to be idle and out of pay, he was solicited by many free Citties, and states of Italy to serue. Amongst whom the City & State of Florence proffered him most, and them he served, with great commendation and honour. From them hee went to the Pysans, with whom when he had serued a space, hee was againe solicited by the Florentines, who increasing his pay, and allowing better meanes to his Souldiers, and followers, obtained his good will againe: with whome hee serued a long time after, with such successse, and increase of his commendation, & glorieus reuolue, that hee was held and esteemed to be the onely, absolute, and the best Souldier that then lived: For having an exceeding sharp. ripe, and quick concept, hee had learned by long experiance in the warres, hee had learned to soke occasions, and politiquely to frame his resolutions. He was also speedy in execution, and whensoever occasion required, hee was as hot in fight, as notable in delaies. So that sundry great Captaines who after were most highly renowned, proceeded from his schoole, as from an

exact

eract Master of martiall discipline. The ex-
ploits which he atchieued with good successe, were
accounted as sure grounds and principles of war-
like discipline, as well amongst his enemies, as a-
mongst his owne followers. Thus waned he old in
the warres, and after an incomparable renowne a-
mongst all men for his vertues and truabalour, hee
departed this mortall life at Florence, and like a soul-
dier was mosthonourably buried in their Cathedrall
Church: and in regard that he had in his life been
a notable defender of their Common wealth. The
Senats and Citizens in reward thereof, erected a
stately Tombe and Monument, with the image of a
man on horsebacke, as great as a mighty pillar, so a
Monument and testimony of his proues in warre,
and his fidelity to them and their state.

A great part of his riches and wealth was conser-
ted into England, where also his executors, or other-
wise his friends at Hunningham Syble where he was
borne, erected for him a tombe or Monument, arched
over, and engraued the likenes of Hawkes in a Wood
lyng. This was done in the Parish Church by Ro-
bert Rokeden Senior, and Robert Rokeden Junior,
& John Cooc: and to the memory of so worthy a man
they builded and founded a Chauntry, whch with
the rest is dissolved.

Hee was by some called Gyouanno Agutho, by
some Acutho: for that the Italians could not well
pronounce his name in English. I haue read him
called in English Sir John Sharpe, Sir John Acton:
and Sir John Hawkewood, whch was indeed his
name.

The Chronicles of Italy doe make often and hono-
rable mention of him, and our Histories doe also re-
member him: amongst which I haue thought good
to set downe the wordes of Thomas of Walsingham

8 The honourable Prentice
in Latin as I find them, as also of Paulus Louius and
others.

Thomas Walsingham.

Per idem tempus Papa fouebat Guerram contra do-
minos mediolanenses quia ipsi tirannice & iniuste,
terr as redditus, & castella de patrimonio beati Petri
longo tempore detinebant. Pro papa vero militabat do-
minus de Spencer qui laudabiliter se gessit ibidem post
mortem ducis Clarentie cum quo peruenit ad partes
illarum.

Eodem tempore Floriut mites ille egregius & fa-
mosus Iohannes Hawkwood, Anglicus natione, ha-
bens secum albam illam comitiam pertactam superi-
us qui nunc contra papam, nunc contra dominos medi-
olanenses bellum gerebat, cuius pars quocunq; veriebat
semper vincebat. Multa itaq; facta egregia ibidem o-
peratus est cum suis & mo. mirabilia, & Inaudita si
quis vellet singula eius gesta enarrare.

Paulus Louius,

Anglorum egressus patrijs Acuthus ab oris si
Italiae primum clima tuta latus adit
Militiae fuerat, quascunq; edictus & artes
Ausonia exeruit non semel ipse plagarum,
Ut donaretur Statua defunctus equestri
Debita nam virtus premia semper habet.

Nicholaus Machiavell.

Quo vero ab externis insidijs munitiones essent Io-

ANNEX

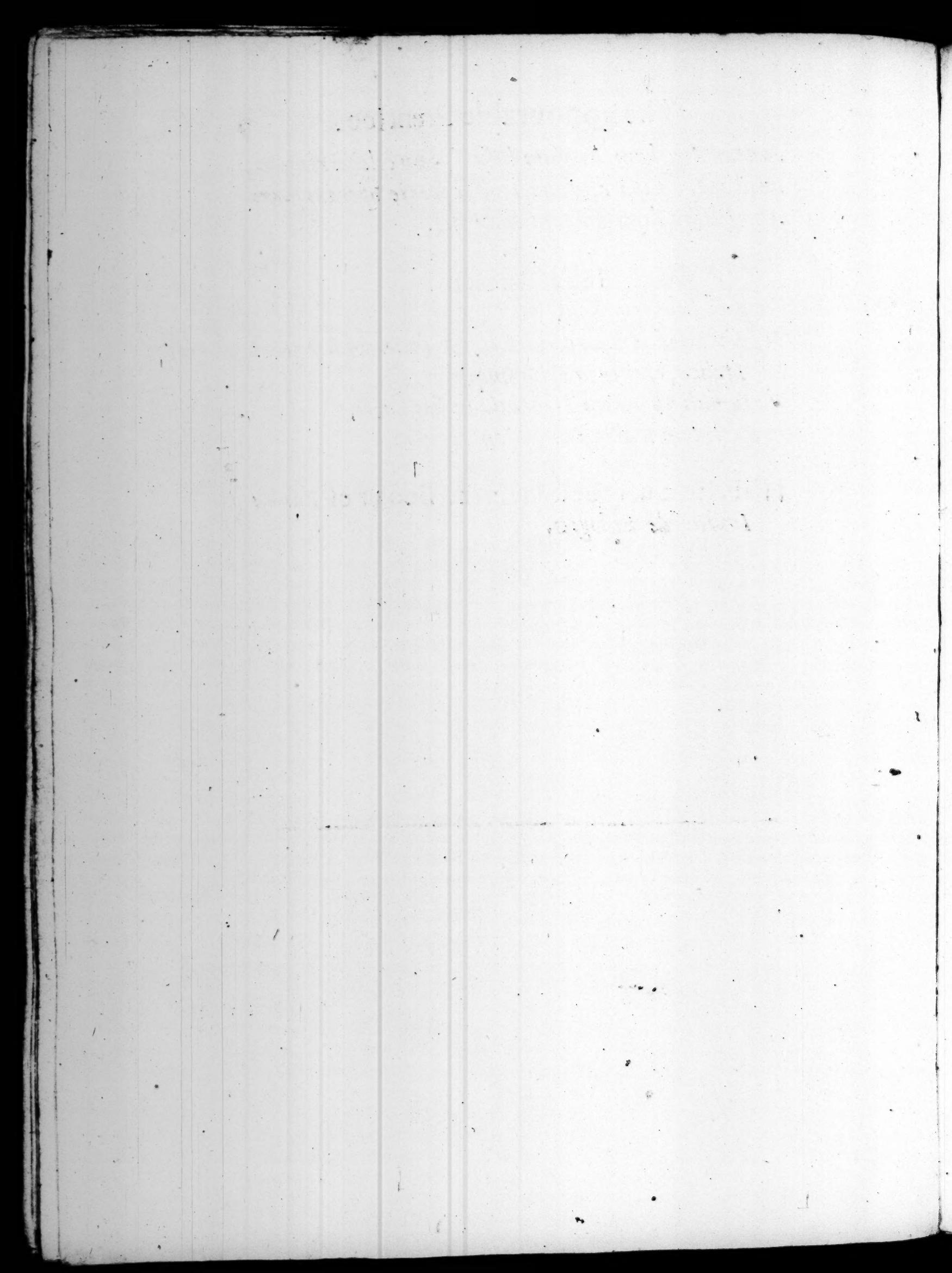
The honourable Prentice. 9

annem Aguthurn Anglum belli ducem celeberrimum,
quod antea papa aliquis Italij egregie operam suam
panasset, ad stipendia sera vocarunt.

Julius Feroldus.

Hawkewood Anglorum decus, & decus addite genti
Italica, Italico praesidiumq; solo
Yt tumuli quondam Florentia sic simulacri,
yirtutem Iouis donat Honore tuam.

His Picture may be seene in the Booke of *Paulus*
Iomina de Eulogis.





The Preface or Fntroduction.



T hath ever beene held a most commendable thing to recount the Acts of auncient Nobility : but much more laudable to recover them from the detouring iawes of all-eating time , which commonly doth swallow the best actions, and aduentures of elder ages, and retaines onely the memory of such exploits and aduentures as the later age ; namely what their Grandfathers haue by hand deliuered , and by tradition left to posterity. The auncient *Brittaines* or the *Welshmen*, had their Barths or Bardi ; as also their Druydes, the last attentiuе on their religion and sacrifices : the first, wholly busied and respectiuе about the recording and repeating , or rather singing the aduentures of their Auncestors , deliuering from one to another, as it were an exact Chronicle, of the most notable aduentures of their Nobilitie ; and haue not onely amongst them, but the like amongst the Galles and Cimbrians (from whom the best learned suppose the *Brittaines* doe proceed)

cced) bee ne had in reverend estimation and credit: but as concerning the ensuing historie, which I purpose to write; we need no tradition to helpe vs, since there yet remaines large and ample records : both Chronicles and histories printed, and written manuscripts which beare testimonie of that which is hereafter deliuered : Records in the Towne, and seuerall Stories and Registers belonging to such houses as were by them builded ; or such as they haue new founded : And these remaine in the hands and priuat custody of particular men : but what I shall here deliuere, I haue found both in old written histories, in common Chronicles, as also out of Records remaining, as I said in the Towre of *London* : being the aduentures of *Robert Fitzwalter*, who liued in the daies of King *John*, and suffred the variable changes of his fortunes, as by that which followeth shall appeare. Whatsoeuer error I shall commit, shall not be of purpose, but for want of sufficient instructions, which whosoever can or will take paines to correct and amend, I will hold my selfe exceedingly well pleased , and be content that first I haue aduentured to entreat of them. So read and vse them at your pleasure.

W. V.

The



The famous history of Robert Fitz-walter.

Of Robert Fitz-walter his Auncstors.

Fat this Family of Fitzwalkers, hath
of long time beene of honurable re-
putation and account, need not ma-
ny prooves: the same not contradicted
but by a general consent, known to dis-
cend from Gislebert, or Gilbert Lord of Clare and
Tonbridge, and also from Waltheof Earle of Nor-
thumberland which lived in William the Conquerors
time, and Iudith Countesse of Huntington, who was
necce to the Conqueror.

It is not amisse to note that our English nation
vsed no Surnames till after the conquest, but tooke
names either of the Christian name of their parents
or of the place where they were borne, or of some o-
ther accident, as their trade, occupation, or of some
quality of body or mind, wherewith they were en-
dowed.

The first of this family of Fitzwalkers that descen-
ded from the house of Clare, was Robert FitzRichard
being indeed one of the younger sonnes of Richard
Fitz-Gilbert Lord of Clare. This Robert had a son

called Walter, surnamed after his fathers Christian name : Fitz-Robert and he had a sonne called Robert Fitz-walter being the sonne of Walter, after whom this name of Fitz-walter was settled in this family, whereof I entreat: This Robert lived in the time of King John, and died Anno 1134. 19. H 3 and that Robert who is mentioned in this Booke, was his grandchild, and lived long after in the time of K. Edw. 1.

Walter Fitz-walter, father of this Robert was first married to Matild or Maud de Beecham, and secondly to Mauld de Lucy, mother to Robert of whom I entreat, whose father died An. Dom. 1198. and was buried at Dunnnow, where he founded a priory, leaving Robert his sonne to succeed him, called Robert Fitz-walter Lord of Woodham, a Towne in Essex, of which name there are also two other Townes, namely Woodham Ferrers, and Woodham Mortimer as also this Woodham Walters, whereof the Fitzwalters were Lords.

Of his marriage, and of his faire daughter Mauld or Matild.



Willingly omit his bringing vp, which could not bee but according to the estate of his nobility, and birth: but his forwardnes and readines to conceiue and learne whatsoever was taught him, exceeded the common sort of his equals: but chiefly he excelled in exercise of Armes, wherin he wholly delighted and ouerwent the rest of his familiars, and such as were brought vp with him. When he came to mans estate, he betooke himselfe to mariage, and by his wife, who lived not long with him, who also may seeme not to haue lined

with

with him so contentedly as was to bee required, hee had one onely daughter whom he loued most entirely, and caused her to be brought vp in vertue and learning, wherein shē prospered to the great contentment and ioy of her Father, and comfort of her mother, who notwithstanding shortly after died, and left her sole gouernor of her Fathers house, which was great consisting of many people, seruингmen, and household seruants: all which shē governed, and vnder her father ruled, wch such discreet and modest behaavour, as was of all people wondred at, in respect of her tender age and youth: besides shē was of such excellent and surpassing beauty, as allured the eyes of all sorts of people to gaze and wonder at it, nature having wrought in her mind an example of all womanhood, and in her body and countenance, a pattern and modell of all perfection, which being knowne at the Court, as also throughout the land: shē was commanded to attend the Court amongst Ladies of her regard and equall estimation: being at Court and daily attendant on the Queen. The King himselfe (I meanes King John) still respecting and gazing at her exquisite carriage, and the perfection of her bewy, fell so farre from himselfe, and that which became his person and estate, that he sent all his endevors to sollicite her of loue, which shē as fully resolute most constantly denied. The repalsed King left not so his vnlawfull state for all her deniall, but practised to procure her father to be a meanes for his vnlawfull and vngodly request: a matter so farre from kingly dignify, a thing so dishonorable for him to attempt or vndergoe, as that for it, he euer after (howeuer for the time he bare faire weather) persecuted and hated the King most deadly: and it seemed to him being a man of high courage and resolution, so prophane and so hainous a request, as was from

his very soule to be abhorred and detested: nature not bzecking the father to become a Pandor to his child: but such was the loue or rather lust of this lasciuious King, that the poore virgine not other wise able to auoid his importunate lute, besough her father that shee might be professed a Nun or votary at Dunmew, whereunto her father consented, trusting that her absence would alay and asswage his lust, and cause him to leauue his unhalloved sute: but it preuailed not, but as a Lyon bereft of his pray grclv more enraged then before, appointing a messenger which he procured and hires of purpose, whose arrand was either to perswade her to consent to the Kings request, or by poison to take away her life: in the end when nothing could perswade her, he according to his direction poisoned her. I haue read that it was secretly done with a poached egge, the sault being poisoned which was for her sauce: Others say with a cup of poison which he enforced her to drinke: but howsoever great mischiefe befell after this lamentable Tragedy, which wel neere had overthowne the Kingdome and Country. This was about the yeere of our Lord 1213.

Of which matter Mr. Michael Draiton and others haue written at large.

Of the Barrons warre, and the banishment of this Robert Fitz-malter.

FOR this occasion and many other grieuances, the Barrons together with this Robert arose, and made warre against the King, drining him to such extremity, that he was forced to deliver the Citty to the Barons, and the Towe of London to the Archbisshop of Canterbury on certayne conditions, wherof I haue seene the coppie of a Charter or deed remaining in the Towe of London to this purpose.

The

The agreement betweens King John of the one part, and Robert Fitz-walter, Marshall for the armis of God and the Church of England, Richard Earle of Clare, Geffrey Earle of Essex, and Gloucester Roger Bygot, Earle of Norfolke and Sussolke, Saer Earle of Winchester, Robert Earle of Oxford, Henry Earle of Heretford, and the Barrons vnderwritten, that is to say William Marshall the younger, Eustace de ves-
cie, William de Mowbray, John Fitz-roberts, Roger de Mountbegon, William de Lannauale, and other Earles and Barrons with those aboue witten toge-
ther, with the freemen of the whole kingdome, that they alsoesaid sha'l hold the City of London, of the King's deliuerance, sauing to the King, in the meane
time, all farmes, rents, and his cleare debts, vntill the
ascention of the Virgin Marie, which shalbe in the
17. yere of his raigne: and the Lord of Canterbury
shall likewise hold of the Kings deliuerance the towre
of London, vnto the foresaid termes, sauing to the Ci-
ty of London, their liberties and the customes, and to
every man his right in the custody or keeping of the
Towre of London: and if so bce that some things na-
med in that Gaunt bee performed by the King: or
that they be not hindred to be by him performed with-
in the said termes: that then the said City shall be deli-
vered to the King, within the said termes, sauing the
liberty and customes of the said City: and if they be
not performed, but hindered by the King: Then the
said Barrons to hold the said City, and the Lord
Archbishop the Towre vntill they be performed. And
in the meane time all men on either side, to receive
the Lands, Castles, and Townes which they had, the
beginning of the warre betwene the King and the
Barons, &c.

Hereby appeareth that the people of England had
great affiance in the wisdome and valour of this Ro-
bert

bert : for they chose him for their chiefe commander, and Generall of their Hoste, by the name of Mar-shall.

The King after this agreement found meanes to banish Robert , and divers others of the Barons, whereof some fled into Scotland, some into France: Thither also fled Robert Fitz-walter : The king con-sidering what damage his owne subiects and peo-ple might doe unto him in France: prepared an Army and sailed ouer and met the French king, where each armie being prepared, and articles of peace and truce proposed , they agreed vpon a truce for five yéeres. Whilst both the hostis lay still about this composition. There was an English knight which made offer to Jüst with any knight of the French host , which challenge Robert Fitz-walter, obtained to answere on behalfe of the French : So he ferried ouer on horse-backe to the English Host, there being a small Riuier betwixt them, and in sight of both kings and armies Robert overthrew and unhozled the English challen-ger or champion, whereat King John was wroth, and swore by Gods tooth which was his vsuall oath, that he were a king indeed that had such a knight : Somis of Roberrs friends enformed him and said it is your owne knight Robert Fitz-walter , and humbly be sought his pardon, which ths king graunted, and so his lands were restozed : and his Castle at London which was defaced and taken from him , called Bai-nards Castle , was with licence of the king repaired and redidied, of which Castle and the custome belon-ging therunto, I haue read in a very auncient writ-ten Booke of the customes of London , that which followeth, which also is remembred by John Stow in his Annales.

The

The ceremonys and rights which
belong to Robert Fitzwalter, Chastelane
of London, and Lord of Woodham; that is, hee
ought to be chiefe Bannerer, or Banner-bearer of Lon-
don, as in fee, which belongeth to his Castle
Bainard, which seruices he ought
to performe in time
of warre.

The said Robert as his Ancestors have done, and *Vid. Io. SWW*
His heires ought to doe, when there is prepara- in Sunsay of
tion for warre, he ought to come vpon his steed, co. London.
nured, he being the twentieh man of Armes, his ca-
parisons of choath, or iron, vnto the great doore of the
Minster, or Cathedrall Church of Saint Paul, with
his Banner displaid, with his Armes in it; and
when he is come to the great doore of the Church,
mounted, and apparelled as before. The Maior
with the Shereses and Aldermen armed, shall come
forth to the doore of the said Church or Minster on
foot, the Maior having a Banner of Saint Paul in
his hands, which Banner shall be of vermaile, with
an Image of Saint Paul of gold, with feet, head, and
handes of Silver; with a sword of silver in the hand of
the said Image: and whē the said Robert shal see him
come forthwith such a banner, hee shall alight from
his horse, and salute the Maior as his fellow and
companon, and shall say, Sir Maior I am come to
doe my service which I owe vnto the Citty: and
they shall say, we gine to you as to our Bannerer, in
fee, this Banner of this towne, to beare and gouerns
to the honour and profit of this Citty to your pow-
er. And the said Robert and his heires shall receiue
the said Banner in his hands, and goe on foot out of

the gate or doore, with the Banner in his hands, and he Maior and ~~so~~heriffes shall follow him to the doore, and present unto him twenty pound Sterling in money, and deliver it to his Chamberlaine for his expences that day: Also a horse wroth twenty pounds, with a Saddle with the Armes of the said Robert on it engrauen, the saddle shall bee covered with Glendall, and his Armes also embrothered. And the said Robert shall mount vpon the said horse, with the Banner in his hand, and when he is vp, he shall say to the Maior, that he cause a Marshall to be chosen for the host, one of the City; and when the Marshall is chosen, the said Robert shall commaund the Maior that hee assemble the Burgeses, and Commyners of the City, and they shall all go vnder the Banner of Saint Paul; and the said Robert shall bere it himself vnto A'gate: being com there, the said Robert and the Maior shall deliver it ouer to whom they shall thinke good, and if they hane cause to goe soorth, Robert shall cause them to meet at the Prio-ry of the Trinity: and the said Robert shall chose two foorth of euery ward, the most sage persons, to foresee that the City bee safely kept, if the Host of London drebesiedge any towne, or Castle. If the siedge continue long, as a whole yeer, he is to receive for euery siedge of the Communalty of London five pounds for his traualle and no moare.

His Rights in time of Peace.

The said Robert hath a Sokne in the City, that is a wall in the Channony of Saint Paul, as a man goeth downe th^r street, before the brame of S. Paul, vnto the Thaines, and so to the side of the mill which is in the water, which commeth downe from Fleet bridge, and goeth so by London wall, betwixt the

the Fryers Preachers, and Ludgate, and so returning backe to the house of the said Fryers, vntill the said cōuen of the wall of the said Channony of S. Paul that is, all the parish of Saint Andrew, which is in the graift of his Ancestors, by the said signiority and so the said Robert hath Appendant to the said Sokue, all these things here vnder written, videlicet.

That he ought to haue Sokeman, and to place what Sokeman he will, so that he be of Sokemanrie.

And if any of the Sokemany bee impleaded in the Gylde Hall of any thing which toucheth not the body of the Maior for the time being, or that toucheth not the body of no Sheriffe; it is lawfull for the Sokeman of the said Robert Fitzwalter, to demand a Court of the said Fitzwalter; and the Maior, and Cittizens ought to graunt him to haue his Court, and in that Court, hee ought to bring his Judge-ment, as it is assented, and given in the Gylde Hall.

If any therefore be taken in his Sokne, he ought to haue his Stockes, and his imprisonment in his Sokne, and hee shall bee brought from thence to the Gylde Hall before the Maior, and there they shall provide him his iudgement, such as ought to bee giuen him, but his iudgement shall not bee published, vntill he come into the Court of the said Robert, and in his Fraunchesse, And the Judgement shall bee such.

If he hath deserued death by treason, then to bee tyed to a pillar, which standeth in the Thame at Wood wharfe, where Boates are fastened, two eb- bings, and two flowings of the water. And if hee be condemned for a common thiefe, he ought to bee led to the Elmes, & there suffer his iudgement, as o- ther common thieues.

The famous Historic

And thus the said Robert, and his heires haue
agreit honour, which he holdeth for a great Fraunc-
cheese within the Citty, that the Maior and the Cit-
tisens are bound to doe him of right; that is to say,
when the Maior will hold a great Councell, he ought
to call the said Robert and his heires to be with him
in Councell, and of Councell with the Citty. And
he ought to be sworne to be of Councell to the Citty,
against all people, saving the King, and his heires.
And when hee commeth to the Hastings in Guild
Hall, the Maior, or his Lieutenant ought to rise a-
gainst him, and set him downe neere vnto him, and
so long as he is in Guild Hall, all the iudgements
ought to be giuen by his mouth, according to the re-
cord of þe Records of the same Guild Hal. And so ma-
ny meyses as come so long as he is there, hee ought
to give them to the Baylives of the Citty, or to whis
he will, by the Connele of the Maior for the time be-

How this customs tooke beginning, or how it en-
ded, I haue not yet read, yet I thought good to re-
peat it, for that it belonged to his Castle, which ho-
nours were againe restored and possessed by his
successors. For I reade that in Anno Dom. 1303.
vpon Saint Gregories day, or the twelveth of March
the thirtynone yeer of King Edward, before Iohn
Le-Bloud then Maior, William de Leyr, Thomas
Romain, William de Bleton, Walter de Finching-
field, Henry de Gloucester, Salamon de Coetellier,
Iohn de Wengraue, Iohn Darments, Hugh Pourt,
Simon de Paris, the Sheriffes, & Aldermen of Lon-
don, and before six men every ward of London, Ro-
bert Frizwalter came, and acknowledg'd service,
and sware vpon the Euangelist to be true to the Citi-
ty, and that he would uphold and maintain them to
his power, and that he shall keepe the counsell of the
said Cittie of London.

The King notwithstanding these compositions, and agreements with his Barons, when all was thought to have been amended, did yet againe urge his Nobles & Barons to rise in Arms against him. In somuch as they sent for Lewis the French Kings sonne, promising to deliuer the Crownes and Kingdome vnto him. Of those which sent for him, I haue read the chiesell were Robert Fitzwalter, and Fulke Fitzwarrine, which two men hee most had wronged and endamaged, the one for his daughters death: the other for taking from him his Lordship of Whittington in Shropshire, and giving it away to the Prince of Wales, then called Lewis. Also Roger Bigot, and many others, who after King John his death, componnded with the French Kings sonne, and sent him away out of England, as one that without their aide could not haue what hee desired.

Of the Bacon at Dunmow Pryory.

Robert Fitzwalter lived long after this belaued of King Henry, the sonnes of King John, as also of all the Realme: He betooke himselfe at his lat-ter time to prayer, gaue great and bountifull almes to the poore, kept great hospitality, and reedified the decayed Pryory of Dunmow, which one Iuga, a most devout and religious woman (in her kinde) being his Ancestor, had builded. In which Pryory arose a custome, began, and instituted either by him, or some of his successors, which is verified by a com-mon proverbe or saying, videlicet. That hee which repents him not of his marriage in a yeere and a day either sleeping, or waking, may lawfully goe to Dunmowe, and fetch a Warmon of Bacon.

It is most assured that such a custome there was,

and that this Bacon was deliu'rd with such solemnity, and triumph, as they of the Priorie, and the Townesmen could make. I haue enquired of the manner of it, and can learne no more, but that it continued vntill the dissolution of the house, as also all the Abbeys.

That the party or Pilgrim for Bacon, was to take his oath before the Prior, the Convent, and the whole towne, humbly acknowledging in the Church-yard, vpon two hard pointed stones: which stones som say are yet to bee seene in the Prioress Church-yard. His oath was ministred with such long proces, and such solemine singeing ouer him, as doubtles must make his pilgrimage, as I may terme it, painfull: after he was taken vp, vpon mens shoulders, and carried,

First, about the Prioress Church-yard, and after through the towne, with all the Fryers and brethren, and all the townes folke, young, and old, following him with shouts and acclamations, with his Bacon borne before him, and in such manner (as I haue heard) he was sent home with his Bacon: of which, I finde, some had a gammon, and others had a flete, or fylch. For profe whereof, I haue from out the Records of the house, found the names of thre severall persons, that at severall times had it.

*Memorandum quod quidam Stevanus Samuell
et de Aston parua, in Com. Essex, &c.*

Whiche bearing in Latin entred into the booke,
which belongeth to the Powle, I haue thus Englished.

Be it remembred, that one Stephen Samuell of little Aston in the County of Essex husbandman, came to the Prioress of Dunmow, on our Lady day in Lent

Lent, in the seventh yeer of King Edward the fourth, and required a Gammon of Bacon, and was swoyne before Roger Rulcote then Pyyor, and the Couent of this place, as also before a multitude of other neighbours: And there was delivere unto him a Gammon of Bacon.

Also, Be it remembred that one Richard Wright of Badeourgh, neere the Cittie of Norwich, in the County of Nortolke, came and required of the Bacon of Dunmow, namely, the seventeenth day of Aprill, in the twenty three yere of the raigne of Henry the sixth, and according to the forme of the Charter was swoyne before Iohn Cannon, Pyyor of this place, and the couent, and many other neighbours, And there was delivere unto the said Richard, one Sleech of Bacon.

Againe, Memorandum, that in the yeere of our Lord 1510. Thomas Le Fuller of Coggeshall, in the County of Essex, came to the Pyyorie of Dunmowe, and required to haue som of the Bacon of Dunnlow, and on the eighth day of September being Sunday, in the second yere of King Henry the eighth, he was according to the forme of the Charter swoyne before Iohn Taylor, then Pyyor of the house, and the Couent: as also before a multitude of neighbours, and there was delivere to the said Thomas a Gammon of Bacon.

Heereby appeareth that it was giuen according to a Charter, or donation, giuen by some conceipted Benefactor to the houle: and it is not to be doubted but that at such a time, the bordering Townes and Villages, woulde resort, and bee partakers of their pastime: and laugh to scorne the poore mans paines.

The order of the Oath.

Y^OU shall sweare by custome of confession,
If euer you made nuptiall transgression:
Be you eyther married man or wif^e,
By house hould brawles, or contentious strife,
Or otherwise in bed, or at boord,
Offend each other in deede, or word;
Or since the parish clarke said Amen,
You wisht your selues vnmarried agen :
Or in a tweluenonths time and a day,
Repented not in thought any way :
But continued true, and iust in desire,
As when you ioind hands in the holy quire.
If to these conditions without all feare,
Of your owne accord, you will freely sweare,
A whole Gammon of Bacon you shall receiue,
And beare it hence with loue and good leaue.
For this is our custome a D^rumow well knowne ;
Though the pleasure be ours, the Bacons your own.

The manner of the murder of Robert Hall
in the Abbey of Westminster at the
High Alter.

The most renowned, valiant, and victorious King Edward the third, making claime to the Kingdome and Crowne of France, as his proper right and inheritance lawfully descended unto him, by right and title of the Queen his mother, made such hot and sharpe wars vpon the then living King of France: That being seconded by his thrice valiant and worthy sonnes, especially his eldest, surnamed the blacke Prince, he drave the French into such a narrow strait and exgent, as that they feared the bitter conquest and overthrow of their Kingdome and State.

Neuer was King more fortunate or happy in his children, nor neuer did age breed more valiant capaines, and chiese commanders then this, the chiefe wherof, besides the King, and his valiant sonnes and the nobility, were Robert Knol, Hugh Cauerley, of Cheshire, Croker of Oxfordshire, Shandoys, &c. Besides Iohn Hawkewood, (never to be forgotten) wha after the end of these warres in France, tooke with him his companies both horse and foot, which wers at his command, And in Italy acted wonders, was most highly esteemed and honoured, of whose aduentures and worthy deedes, the Histories of Italys make large report, who at last there died, and in Padua (as I remember hath a most worthy monument erected so him: of these captaines Hawkewood amongst the Italians was called Io. Acuth.

These captaines as also many others (according to the use of conquerors) had giuen unto them lands, offices, and preferments, as keping of Castles, Cities, Townes, and countries, which in the behalfs and right of King Edward, they with great and stout

refusall

resolution held and maintained, in despight of all the French, or any powre they could make: who being wearied and outworne with the terroz of these warres, (their estate still waxing worse and worse) solicited the Pope, and all the Princes of Christendome, to be a meanes unto King Edward of their peace, which was at last graunted, and the English forces abated and withdrawne: But the chieffest could not so easily be withdrawne from such places, as with their swords they had conquered: nor from those honours and preferments, which with expence of their blood, were in reward of their valour and service giuen unto them, vntill occasion presented a fit meanes of pollicy, wherein the French exced the English (as Comineus witnesseth) as in field or battaile the English exced the French.

It happened at the same very time, that Peter the lawfull King of Castile, or Spaine, was expulsed his kingdome by his bastard brother Henry, and in the yéere 1380. came to Burdeaux to the blacke Prince, craving aid and succor against his usurping brother. This matter was furthered by the French, who were most desirous of his absence, well knowing that the English Captaines and souldiers would follow him as the flowers of Chivalry: and the honor and glory of his time.

The Prince accepted of Peters request, and sooth with obtained licence of his Father, to transport or rather lead his Army into Spaine: where in a maine battaile fought at Nazers, Henry the Bastard was defated, overcome, his Army dispersed, and 6000 slaine, and 200. taken prisoners, amongst which the Earle of Deuc and Bertrand Clakyn, were most remarkeable, and men of speciall note. By this means King Peter was restored, whose daughter and heire Iohn of Gaunt thrid son of King Edward, and brother

ther to the blacke Prince married, and in her right intituled and called himselfe King of Castile, Leon, and Aragon, which now is called Spaine : of which matter the Chzonicles make large report, and therefore needlesse to be repeated and new written: but to our purpose.

Amongst these prisoners the Earle of Dene, being (as I said) the most remardeable and of chiefeſt note albeit he was challenged by sundry men , whereof ſome were of the Nobility : yet this iuft and wiſe Prince, who neuer uſed to ſuffer vertue and valour unrewarded , nor would not for either fauour or feare doe a meane and priuate ſouldier any wrong, adiudged the ſaid Earle to be the lawfull prisoner of two valiant Esquires, Souldiers and men of youth and reputation, named Robert Hall and John Shakerley , and thereoſt they obtained his Charter againſt all others that pretended claime or interest in him.

The Earle not willing to go with them into England, made request to be ransomed, which was grau- fed unto him, and the ſame agreed vpon, which he affirmed hee was not able preſently to pay : For that thofe warres had ſo impouerished both himſelf , and his countrey, and people that all their mony & goods were wasted and conuerted : notwithstanding hee would giue unto them his eldeſt ſonne and heire as a pledge , and hoffage of the performance of ſuch pa- ment as hee promised , and they were conuerced to accept of. He remained he ſtill in Spaine , and the youth who(as I can gather)was not then aboue 8.or nine yeeres of age came with thofe two Esquires into England, and in ſhort ſpace he learned the ready pro- nouncing of the English tongue or language ; and likewiſe proſpered in all vertues and good quallities, that he was ſo well beloved of his ſaid Gaurdians or masters, as iſ he had bene their owne child: Here on

the other part behaued himselfe honestly, louingly, and most kindly towards them, wt h such faith and fidelity in their manisols troubles, which for his cause they sustaine das was most admirable, and hereafter shall be declared. His vnkind Father neither regarding his promis, his oath, nor his bonds; nor hauing any care or father-like affection to his ingaged sonne, never sent the ransome, nor any part thereof, but most vnnaturallly left him in their hands, at the will of his two masters, where I will leaue him, and returne to King Edward.

The black Prince the consort of his Father, and ioy of England, shortly after this, departed this life, The good King his Father not able to sustaine the burthen of so great sorow, liued not long after, but left the son of Prince Edward his Nephew to succeed him in his Kingdomes and Crownes, by the name of King Richard the second. In which space, King Peter of Spaine was also staine by his brother, and the bastard Henry again, repossessed the Crown, and dignity.

John of Gaunt Duke of Lancaster, Earle of Derby, &c. after the death of King Peter, called himselfe (in right of Beatrix his wife) King of Castile, Leon, & Aragon, and obtained licence of the King to transport an Army at his owne proper charge into Spain for the recovery of his Kingdome. And for that purpose made great and long provision. And knowing well that the Earle of Shancie was in the hands of Hall, and Shakerley, solicited them to haue him: but they vfferly refused to part with him, without ready payment of the money for his ransome: whereupon he besought the King to deale with them on his behalf. The king pretending y his purpose was to make a mariage betwene the said Earle: and his sister, a gallant Lady, and rich widow, late wife to

Percy

Peter Cortney: But this devise, nor nothing else pro-
vailed to obtaine the Dukes purpose: so that they
were both committed to the Tower of London, from
whence (I know not by what meanes) they escaped:
and after soz their further safety, they tooke them-
selves to the Sanctuary at Westminster, & enrolled
themselves and their goods in the protection and pri-
uilege of that place: which was at that time so
strong and so reverend, as it was not thought that a
ny man how cruell, or tirannous so ever durst once
infringe, violate, or breake it.

The Duke having staid so long in making pro-
vision for his iorney, that divers of his chiefeſt, fol-
lowers grew weary of their charges and expences,
and knowing that the matter of this Earle breed his
discontent, and was a ſpeciall let and hinderance to
his further proceedings, determined to ſet aside all
religion and conſcience, and make hreath of the ſan-
ctuary, he wholy ſoever, and take from them their
prisoner, or bring them back to the Tower: where-
upon fifty or ſixty choſen men were armed, and ſe-
cretly placed to break into the Abbey at ſervice time
and if no peruasions could preuaile, then with vio-
lence to ſet upon them. The chiefeſt of theſe were
Raph de Ferres, the Lord Latimer, Alan Buxhill, and
others, who at that time of Masse gat into the
Church, and by craft drew Shakerley forth of the li-
bertyes of the Sanctuary, by a poſteyne, or ſmall
dore, leading to the Ducens bridge through the old
paialace. But as foz Hall when they ſaw they could
not intreat nor perſuade him, they began to bend
their weapons toward him: but hee having a ſhort
ſword drew it, and valiantly defended their assault,
tourning about the Abbey, yet found no rescue, or
helpe, but a company of Monkes and Priests, naked
as it were, and unarm'd, who cryed to God fo-

vengeance of this horrible sacrilidge. I haue been shewed a great notch which remains in a marble pillar, reported to bee made with a blow which one of them strook at him, and yet miss him. Also the stones where he was fit it deadly wounded, retaine yet (as is said) his blood, whether it be so or bée the naturall colour of the stonye, let Philosophers dispute, hee seeing himselfe so wounded, ran vp to the high Altar, where the two Priests stood amazed at this deathfull accident. One of the Lay bretheren a servant of the house, opposing himselfe for rescue was slaine, as also Hall himselfe. The murderers mads away and fled.

This being performed, and they notwithstanding their purpose of the Earle of Deane, it followed that the Church was suspended, the diuine seruices ceased: the Quiristers, Chorists, bells, and Organs became mute: the Church dores were dammed and mured vp with thornes and bushes, at least sixty leade (as I haue read) And the Authors and doers thereof cursed with Bell, Book, and Candle: for they were all well knowne, this was not onely don in London, but in every Cathedrall Church and parish Church throughout all England and Wales. This severe censure of the Church, this curse or ban was denounced: neyther did the Duke himselfe escape it, although he same would haue excused it, as neither knowing of it, nor consenting to it: but hee preuyled not, and was also punished by this heavy curse. This continued for the space of certaine weekes, in which time the King so wrought with the Duke, that hee fell to composition with Shakerley: who for the summe of fiftie hundred markes of present money, and a hundred markes by the yere, was contented to part with his prisoner. Also that the Duke at his owne charges shoulde build a Chantrey,

and

and find five priests for ever to sing for the soule of Robert Hall. The money being paid, and security put in for performance of the rest, the Church, the Bells and Church ornaments, were new hallowed, the seruices againe restored: But that which was most to be admires, was, that when the prisoner, or Castle was demaunded, he deliuered his Page, who they all knew in all his troubles had most faithfully serued him and his companion. All sorts of people wondering at the great fidelity of this straunger, who albeit hee well knew that hee was sought for his pferment, that his Father was dead: yet detesting the vnkindnesse of his father and friends, chose rather to be pertaker of his masters troubles, than to falsifie the faith, oath, and promis which he had made vnto them. A most rare and memorabile example.

Hall lyeth buried in the Abbey at Westminster, not far from Chaucers Tombe, vnder a faire monu-
ment of a flat Marble stone, with his image of bras-
s in his armour: and about the same certaine ver-
ses in Lattin, which though much defaced with trea-
ding, and neare worn out, may be found in a booke
called the Remaines of a greater Worke. set foorth by
Mr. Camden, al. Clareceaulx King at Armes.

The Duke of Lancaster with a great Powre
went into Spaine, where after sundry victories, and
variable fortunes, a great sicknesse attacted his peo-
ple: by meanes whereof his successe was not answe-
rable to his expectation, nor the height of his minde,
whereby he yielded to a composition with Henry the
King, and received of him eight Charriots, laden
with Gold and Siluer: and a yererly tribute of a
thousand Markes: with these conditions he depar-
ted out of Spaine, and returned into England:
dyed, and lyeth baryed in Paules, with his wife and
Daughter of King Peter, whose stile and titles of
honour

The lamentable murder
Honour and Dignity, were written and set vpp
by it, at the cost and charges of one master Ro-
bert Hare, late one of the Councell to
Queene Mary, and late Treasurer,
and writer of the Exche-
quer Rolles.

FINIS.
